

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLX

March 2009

Number 3



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting: March 12, 2009 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post

1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net



### Next Meeting

"Collecting and Restoring Radios of the Past" and will be presented by Pat Bunshold, WA6MHZ

## 2009 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	W6GRK	Gary Kushe	562-5391

## 2009 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Social Chair	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogle" Panger	263-4439

## 2009 Standing Committees

Bylaws	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Health & Welfare	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Historian	KI6QDB	Paul Weekley	
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W2IRI	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Welcome	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	

## Staff and Writers

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KO4QT	Steve	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
AE6CQ	Michael	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
WA6L	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

### SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

## From The President

**Paul KC6QLS**



I am really happy to see this club growing in membership and going down the right path. I have talked with some of the members that have rejoined after being out for many years and they like what they see. They like the forward thinking of the club leadership and also believe that we are moving in the right direction too.

The Tower has been a big draw to the club. We will have more Tower Deployments this year. Some new deployments are in the works and as soon as we get the OK and a date you will know where, when and what radio will be there!

For the rest of the years meetings let's all bring in a friend, relative, family member or a new Ham to the club meeting. If we all can do this, it will help strengthen the Club.

73

**Paul Rios, KC6QLS**  
President



**Arizona Donuts "Got Net?"**

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
12 February 2009



The General Membership Meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order by the club President Paul Rios, KC6QLS at 1900hrs. After the pledge of allegiance, visitors were welcomed.

**SECRETARY's** report was approved as published in the *Counterpoise*.

**TREASURER** Gary, W6GRK gave his report. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

**BYLAWS CHANGE** was taken up by the chair. The first change was a change in Article X regarding the 18 year old requirement for election to office or members of the Board of Directors. It was moved and seconded that this change be set for approval. Motion was carried.

The next change presented to the membership concerning notification procedures in Article IV adding language to reflect the use of e-mail, website and club reflector. It was moved and seconded that this change be adapted. The motion was carried.

**VICE PRESIDENT** Steve Weed, KO4QT introduced this evening's program by Paul Rios about "Ham Radio on the Silver Screen." The program was well received and contained numerous movie clips.

After the program, the business portion of the meeting continued.

**PRESIDENT** Rios reported that Paul and Steve will be going to Yuma for the Hamfest on 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> of this month.

**COUNTERPOISE** is now 100% on line. Need volunteers for the upcoming EOC events. There will be sign up sheets at the next meeting.

**VICE PRESIDENT** Steve, KO6QT gave his report. All events of the year are highlighted on the on line calendar. The topic of the March meeting would be the Crest Radio Museum given by Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ. Half mile marathon event went very well. The managers of the event were surprised as to the capabilities of amateur radio during the event. The tower trailer now has new LED tail lights which can use the four pin as well as the five pin adapter. All of the cabins are reserved for Field Day and the entire campground will be used by the ARCEC. The manager of the camp wanted a deposit for the camp and the lodging. It was agreed that the deposit would be for the kitchen only. The camp will also be reserved for 2010. There are still some dorm rooms available. We have collected about \$371 towards the food costs for Field Day. There will be Field Day

pins available for Field Day. There will be further details at the next meeting. Field Day T-Shirts should be available in June. The logo contest for the T-Shirts will conclude in April and must be ordered by size and paid for at the May Meeting. Delivery of the T-Shirts would be at the Field Day Site. Steve announced members who have earned their Extra Class Licenses. Also, he also announced General and Technician Licensees. The General Class would begin on 10 March 2009.

**NET MANAGER** Mike, KG6TDP announced about 19-20 responders to the net.

**SANDARC** delegate, Larry, AE6AV reported on the first meeting of the year of the SANDARC Council. A budget for the calendar year 2008 was passed. The DX club has reported that the attorney retained by them has responded to the City's attempt to enact a restrictive antenna ordinance. We are waiting for the City's response. Riverside will not be holding a convention this year. There will be a one day Hamfest instead. SANDARC intends to begin advertising the 2010 convention. The City of Palmdale has lost their lawsuit and the amateur radio operator so ordered will be allowed to erect his antenna again. There is still no word on costs awarded.

**MEMBERSHIP** stands at 187 members with 56 attending and 2 visitors for a total of 58 present tonight.

**EDUCATION** Chair reports that the general upgrade class will commence on 10 March 2009. The extra class will occur after Field Day.

**PUBLIC SERVICE** chairman Rich, N6NKJ stated that the Wild Land Fire Training will start on 16 May. He also announced that RACES is asking for operators for two events.

**PRIZE CHAIRMAN** Floyd, AF6BC described the prizes on this evening's prize table.

There being no further business before the general membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2121hrs.

Respectfully submitted  
Michael Maston, N6OPH  
Secretary  
Amateur Radio club of El Cajon





## From The Vice President KO4QT Steve



In spreading my wings in the civilian world of two way radio, like a lot of you, I started out on the "Chicken Band" (CB radio). In the mid 1980's, a friend, Chuck (who's now KI6TG) and I decided to get our HAM licenses so we went to Ham Radio Outlet in Kearney Mesa and spoke with Tom KM6K. After a few minutes of conversation with Tom, he directed Chuck and I to the ARRL Novice license study manual which was called "Now You're Talking". Back then, you had two choices of manuals..one with Morse code learning cassette tapes, or one without the tapes. I learned CODE in the Army as a Radio Operator and had my own copy of Army code tapes so we bought the manuals "without" the tapes (and saved, I think, a whole 5 bucks!). Chuck and I got together every morning after that before work to study. I taught Chuck Morse code (with the help of the tapes) and operating practices, and, Chuck (who's a whiz at electronics and computers) taught me basic electronics and antenna theory. We tested in early November of 1985 (and Passed) and received our Novice licenses in the mail on the same day in mid December with consecutive call's. Chuck was KB6KSQ and I was KB6KSP.

Bear with me, this is actually going somewhere!! One thing in that Novice study guide that left a lasting impression on me was printed on the very first page of the manual and was titled "The Amateur's Code". This "Code", back then as well as today, has given me something to strive for. It has also been a guide for me in my service to other HAM's, my Community, and my station operating practices. Some of you are probably wondering, what in the world is this Amateur's Code? The Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA way back in 1928, and here it is.

The Radio Amateur is:  
**CONSIDERATE**...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.



Continued on Page 11

### WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Axel	KI6RRN	Donut Net

### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 p.m. local time 7:45 "Early Checkins"  
This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken.

### Donut Net:

Monday, 7:00 p.m.  
Bring your Donuts. GOT MILK?

### Wide Open Ham Net:

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

### Frito's Corn Chip Net:

Thursday, 7:00 p.m. on 28.435 Mhz USB

Nets held on Club's WA6BGS Repeaters System  
RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL  
RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL  
RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL  
Don't miss it. All members welcome.

WAMO means Worked All Members Only.  
The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

## Calendar of Events March 2009

March. 3:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
March. 7:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
March. 7:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
March. 7:	East County CERT Academy
March. 12:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
March 14:	Baker 2 Vegas Relay Race and 15th
March 18:	Counterpoise Dead Line
March. 21:	One-Day Technician License Class
March. 21:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
March. 21:	East County CERT Academy

### Upcoming Event Dates

Apr. 9:	Annual Field Day T-Shirt Logo Contest
May 9:	Pacific Crest Trail 50 Mile Run
May 16:	Wildland Fire Safety Training
June 12:	Del Mar Fair Amateur Radio Booth

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5375 Kearny Villa Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Address:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:

A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

## ARCEC Membership Application

Please print clearly, complete all info and return to Membership Chair with your payment:

( ) Individual Membership \$18.00

( ) Family Membership \$30.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class of License: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members and Calls: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO #: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ( ) New Member ( ) Renewal

( ) Returning Member

\*If you are a returning member, you will keep your original WAMO #. \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: I want to receive the Counterpoise Newsletter by: ( ) Mail ( ) Email ( ) Website

Check One: I give my permission to publish my info on the Club Roster ( ) Yes ( ) No

If no, state exactly what information you do not want published: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ARRL Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

ARES Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

RACES Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

Would you like to be in the Counterpoise Spotlight? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Would you like to be a member of The East County Response Team? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Mail with payment to:

Membership Chair, ARCEC, P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthday

March	5	KS6L	Forrest	Hogue
March	9	AE6AV	Larry	Plummer
March	16	W3ALL	Arthur	Leveille
March	17	KG6NDS	Jim	Culligan
March	19	WZ6K	Glenn	Boeck
March	20	WB6VEC	George	Runyan
March	22	W6INI	Art	Smith (L)
March	27	KG6NDX	Don	Compton
March	27	KI6GZK	Don	Dodson
March	27	NO CALL	Doris	Kukuk
March	31	KG6EVA	Robert	Daily



**AMATEUR RADIO**

QLS

## Word Search

I Q W O K U Y A E W U K I J E X  
K N I S T A E H Q K U E G Q V O  
W U T R K Q U D X J V D Z Q U B  
X G G E W I H V O I L A Y W Q K  
G O E V R I Z U I K Z C W K Z N  
T R J K E M O Q H Z W E H D E U  
U T G I G K I D B A N O D S G J J  
Q W L V U W H T W P O U I C H E  
D I S P L A Y R T P K K H I W V  
I E H W A U W G Q E D V O T G Q  
G C I E T O V K H D N W K A U S  
I V S C O U N T E R D T I M I W  
T K J H R O Q U K J Y R D E K A  
A Y Q I J T E E M P A W S H D K  
L V U P E G H W K I E K P C E L  
R O G S P E C T R O N I C S A Y  
X U S E A Y O Q J X G H B Q L S

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BANDS        | <input type="checkbox"/> PCB         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHIPS        | <input type="checkbox"/> REGULATOR   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTER      | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEMATIC   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DECADE       | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECTRONICS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIGITAL      | <input type="checkbox"/> SWAPMEET    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISPLAY      | <input type="checkbox"/> TRW         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HEATSINK     | <input type="checkbox"/> TTL         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ICS          | <input type="checkbox"/> VOILA       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INTERMITTENT | <input type="checkbox"/> YAESU       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUNKBOX      | <input type="checkbox"/> ZAPPED      |

BONUS HRO

## Brain Thinkers

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4= S. in a S.           | 4 Sides in a Square   |
| 6= W. of H. VIII        | 6 Wives of Henry VIII |
| 28 = D. in F.           | 28 Days in February   |
| ----- This Months ----- |                       |
| 5= F. on a H.           |                       |
| 52 W. in a Y.           |                       |
| 187= M. in ARCEC        |                       |

## Last Months Word Search

H O L L Y W O O D U B W G Z O K V R  
T H Q U X B Q H A T R E B L I D U E  
D A T H Z V S I M P S O N S H W K Y  
A V W T H E K N A C K T Q B S I S  
G B M C H A L E S N A V Y Z G B O E  
W U H O W H J T H W G C W H O K H C  
O A H N X U M S W J N U H V J A P S  
O T Z T X Q J O X E W Y Z W U X U N  
D W S A Y K W B U T N H P T K G S A  
H N G C B A U Q J N X E A Y H Q X R  
X A H T V X E W A O T P E P O F U T  
O G J Q K R P O V H G A H R W R H W  
Q I Z W F W A K I P J Y I K C A Z H  
V L P H E N O M I N O N J N T S Q Q  
W L G K O G T Z N J A O K S D I B L  
K J J E R I C H O K X M O V I S S  
H G K Q B U Z W X V K U Z T B R W V



# ASK AN ELMER

The question this month is, "Why should I join a Club?" After making some calls and reading the feedback, it's pretty much like finding the right Radio. Like some Amateur Radio Operators, you can have more than one radio to meet your needs. You have one radio for your car, one for the QTH and one on your side. Most people find this is the same about Clubs. You may join one for the DXing, one for the Repeaters, and then one for the Field Day experience.

Let's start by finding where your interest may be. What do you like to do? DX, local QSO's on Repeaters, or you just do not know. The information below may help you find a club to fit your needs.

Let's say you have been an Amateur Radio Operator for years and never got into DXing. You will find a club here in San Diego that is the King of DX. They will teach you everything about DXing. HF rigs, antennas, and how to work some pile ups are just the tip of the iceberg of knowledge that you will walk away with.

Ok, you like to use the local Repeaters on the hill tops. It might be nice to help support them by joining the club where the repeaters are that you frequently use. Not only will you help keep the Repeaters up on the hill in working order, but also you will have a better understanding on how they got up there in the first place and what keeps them working.

If you do not know what club to join, a club that has a general membership may fit you best. This club has Repeaters, a 100' tower to work some DX, has Field Day every year, along with some kind of event just about every month to exercise your Amateur Radio muscle. With the collective minds of all the members, the knowledge is theirs to share. I find it very warm when I see a young Amateur Radio Operator ask a well seasoned Amateur Radio Operator with many years on the Bands a question about how do I do this... The seasoned Amateur Radio Operator's eyes light

up and the knowledge begins to flow, starting the next generation down the road of Amateur Radio.

If you get anything from a club, or any organization, it is a base of friends with the same interest and the sense of being in the right place. This is true in any society, most people like to be around others like themselves Ham or not. In the times we are in, and with the membership in all clubs dwindling, we need to build up the membership. In the time of need, you need to know how to work the radio, work that DX, who to ask the question, and where you can go to help. This will help you to be prepared for the next emergency.

So become Radio Active! And join an Amateur Radio Club Today! It's ok to join more than one too. Where can you find local clubs? [www.arprsd.org](http://www.arprsd.org), [www.arri.org](http://www.arri.org), [www.SANDARC.org](http://www.SANDARC.org), and/or "Google" San Diego Amateur Radio.

Next month's question, "Shore Power vs. Battery/Solar Power, what is best?"

73

Elmer A. Ham

Please submit your thoughts to [WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net](mailto:WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net) and the Elmers will answer with your feedback. Also, please send in any question that you might have.

## Information and Resources:

Club Members and People thinking of Joining.  
Radio QSO's & Button Hole QSO's



## The Editor's Corner KC6QLS Paul



### Editor's Corner Counterpoise is out!

73 Paul Rios, KC6QLS  
Editor

### Public Relations

We have many events coming up this year. This is the time to wear your club shirt and help get the word out about Amateur Radio. The SANDARC Booth at the Del Mar Fair "San Diego County Fair" is one of best opportunities to talk to many people that are thinking about Amateur Radio or just people walking by asking questions. Also, we are going to do Kids Best again and make some Wooden CW Keys. The look on the kid's faces was priceless! I think we sparked some interest in the youngsters, and when they get older, they will look at the Wooden CW Key they made and recall the fun they had. The same goes for Fire Station 6 Open House; The Wooden CW Keys were a big hit there too. It was also the Towers first Deployment! This year join us at the Open House and work the QSO Contest.

The Library display is at the Mission Valley San Diego Branch Library. It is a must see. If you can find a way to get down there, I guarantee you will walk away dazzled and impressed. Steve KO4QT and I worked on it, and when we stepped back, we said, "now that's a display." It covers an area about 12 feet long by 7 feet high and 18 inches deep. In the center is the TS-520 with the hood off so you can find the parts, CW Key and a CW QSO and above it all is this big Yaesu World Map of the distant places A. Ham talked to.



## Volunteers Needed

Up Coming Events  
Speakers and Program Ideas

## E-Mail

Address for the Counterpoise. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:  
**WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net**

## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. Please contact: Floyd Lang AF6BC at 303-6711.

## Things to keep in mind

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

## Quote of the Month

"A prudent question is one-half of wisdom."  
- Francis Bacon

## JOKE

How can you get four suits for a dollar?

*Buy a deck of cards.*

Lisie KI6EEK



# Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



## The Ham Radio Detective

I am always on the lookout for hopeless projects: radios that others have tried to fix and gave up on. The greater the challenge, the more fun it is to fix it. I will pass on rigs struck by lightning, though. They are hopeless and the only good parts are probably the knobs. A Lightning bolt can really fry a radio. So when on Ebay, I always check out the listings under "repair" and "for parts". There are lots of interesting challenges there.

Last month, I found a Spectronics DD-1 Digital Display listed in wasted condition. It was all torn apart and many repairs had been tried on it. Looked like a hopeless case, just what I wanted!!! I didn't have the radio for it, but maybe I could adapt it to one I did have. Spectronics was one of those companies that came and went. I had a manual to the counter, but it didn't have a schematic. This would be tough! Bidding was tough too, as one rotten person out there really wanted it bad. It took incredible bidding to score it. I wound up paying more for this wasted one than I could have gotten a perfect condition one for!!! OK, I had better fix it now!

When it came in, I checked out the PCB. All the parts were there, but in what condition? I hooked up an external 5V power supply to it and it was completely dead. Looking around the circuit with my O-Scope, I saw no signals. This board had been really ZAPPED!!! It was time for a trip to the Junk store! Fortunately the IC's were all TTL, as this was made in the early 1970s. They were cheap and I got a full set of chips for around \$10. Time to replace all the IC's. But there was a problem. Some of the IC's had no part numbers. Wonder what they were? I had to draw out the circuit.

I guessed the unmarked IC's were 7490 decade counter chips. All the IC's were changed and the board was tried again. This time, the display lit up, but some digits had funny readings.

Something was still not right. It pointed to the IC's not marked. Some manufacturers do a dastardly act to keep their products from being reverse engineered. They sand off the part numbers. On the IC's I had guessed were 7490s, I found the power and ground went to pins 14 and 7 instead of pins 5 and 10 as are on 7490s. But the general function was a decade counter of sorts. Wonder what it is?

I got out a 1970 Texas Instruments TTL Data book and started going page by page, looking for an IC with the pin-out these unmarked ones had after I had drawn out the hookup. Page after page was searched. Finally, I found one that looked pretty close. It was a 74196 Presettable decade counter! Just, what I needed. These ICs are very rare, and the junk store was sold out. But they did have 74LS196s. Would they work? At 45 cents each, it was worth the chance. I rushed back to work and installed them. To my great delight, the circuit now worked great!! I still needed a 5 volt regulator, which had been blown away in the blast. I found a little Microtrends switching 5V regulator in my junk box, and installed it behind the LM309K on the heatsink. That way, the counter would look original with the real regulator hidden behind. No one would ever know. There was no Electrolytic in the debris box the counter had come in, so I scrounged a big one here at work. That worked great.

About the same period, I was at the TRW Swapmeet looking for Treasures, and came across a "maybe you can get it to work" Yaesu FT-101B. It didn't work on some bands but did on others. That was promising. The seller gave me a great deal on it and it was carted back to work. This was the radio the DD-1 was designed for!!

The FT-101B sure didn't work on several bands, and was intermittent on others. Out came the Tuner Cleaner, and I sprayed all the pots and switches. Sure enough, that was all that was wrong with the radio. After spraying, the switches and pots were rapidly rotated to brush away the corrosion built up over the years and get a good contact again. VOILA!!! The radio now worked great! I aligned and tested it, and now it



Continued Page 12

## *Yuma Hamfest and stop and smell the Roses!*

In February Steve KO4QT and I went to the Yuma Hamfest, and we saw a lot of Hams from San Diego. We set up a booth and had three tables of Boat Anchors and some real nice radios too: TS-430S, FT-890 and (2) IC-730's. Yes, some real radios! Steve sold one of the IC-730's and had many Lookie Lou's looking at the rest of them. Badges were being made left and right too. Many eye ball QSO's were going on, and many new ideas for the future were talked about. Seminars were also going on and ranged from Emergency Service to Amateur Radio on the Silver Screen. Prizes were handed out at the Buzzard Dinner just to list the main prizes; Yaesu FT-950 HF Radio, Kenwood TM-D710A 2 meter, Yaesu VX-8R HT Quadbander, and a MFJ-259B Antenna Analyzer.

Then the trip back; after packing things up, we took the time to visit the Army Quartermaster Depot right next to the river and south of the Yuma Prison. The Quartermaster Depot was in full operation from 1865 to 1891. The U.S. Weather Service and Border Commission occupied the site until 1966. This leads us to the hidden treasure; from 1875 to 1891 the U.S. Army Signal Corps used the telegraph line. This was the first telegraph line in Yuma. The Signal Corps also established a weather station in 1875 and operated it till 1949. You can still see the telegraph pole on the north side of the building. We even found the telegraph operating station complete with the old telegraph key.

Paul Rios, KC6QLS



Army Quartermaster Telegraph Station



Telegraph Key



Telegraph Sounder

## *From The Vice-President Continued*

**LOYAL**...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE**...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

**FRIENDLY**...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED**...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC**...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

Do you remember reading The Amateur's Code in years gone by? Has it affected the type of HAM you are? It's something to think about, isn't it?

Plans are ongoing for Field Day 2009 (the weekend of June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>). If you haven't gotten with me yet to reserve your Lodging at the Shrine Camp at Mt Laguna, now's the time. Bunks are going fast! There are lot's of RV and Tent spaces available though. Plans right now are to put Yagi Beam's to operate 20, 15, and 10 meters on each of our three AB-577 military surplus towers. High atop our 100' tower trailer we'll have antennas for 6 meters, 2 meters and 70 centimeters. Of course we'll also have Mike's (N6OPH) 40 meter dipole and our Club dipole for 75meters. If you haven't had a chance to work WAMO #000 yet, you're in luck. Mike, KG6TDP will be running the WAMO net Saturday evening of Field Day weekend and will be giving out the Club's Call Sign and WAMO number, WA6BGS WAMO#000. Judging of Field Day T-Shirt Logo designs will be held at our April Club meeting. Field Day T-Shirts must be ordered by size and paid for in advance by our May Club meeting. This year, in addition to our Club Field Day T-Shirt's, I'll be ordering ARRL Field Day Pins for those of you who want them (contact me by

phone or email to get on the list). As soon as I see the Pin's (and price) on the ARRL website I'll contact all of you who are on my "Pin" list, collect monies for them (splitting the shipping costs) and place the order. Pin's and Field Day T-Shirts will be given out to those who ordered them on Friday June 26<sup>th</sup> at our Field Day Site at the Al Bahr Shrine Camp in Mt. Laguna CA.

Be sure you check in to the Nets on the Club's repeaters. Net schedule and frequencies can be found on the Club website [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org) (if you need help programming your radio to get on the repeaters, let me know). On the Wednesday and Saturday evening WAMO Net's, you'll be able to keep up to date on what's going on with the Club when I make announcements at just a couple minutes after 8:00 pm.

The program for our March meeting is titled "Collecting and Restoring Radios of the Past" and will be presented by Pat Bunshold, WA6MHZ. Pat is an Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Past President (1980 & 2003), Past ARRL Section Manager, and Curator and Owner of the Crest Radio Museum. Pat does an incredible job of restoring old radios to "like new" condition, with original parts! When I say old radios, I'm talking OLD RADIOS...dating back to around the time of the Great Depression or maybe even earlier. If you were at our January Club meeting, you most likely saw an example of the FINE work Pat did with his newly restored 1935 Philco 89 Cathedral Radio (which is an AM Broadcast Radio manufactured in 1935). There are pictures of it in the February's Counterpoise. Make sure to put this meeting on your "to do" list. You'll be amazed by what you see.

73, and I'll see you at the March Club Meeting

Steve KO4QT





# Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello again,

All of you who have attended the last two meetings have really come through with donations for the Field Day Food Donations Drive; please keep the donations coming, THANK YOU!

On March 21, there will be a one day Tech Class at the Joan Krock Center; for more information contact Steve Early at [ad6vi@cox.net](mailto:ad6vi@cox.net)

On May 9, the Annual Pacific Crest Trail 50 mile run will take place. This race will require a large number of operators. Contact Jim Edgerton, W6SST if you can help provide essential communications [w6sst@amsat.org](mailto:w6sst@amsat.org).

May 16, Wildland Fire Safety Training will take place from 9am to 1pm. The address is 5555 Aztec Drive in La Mesa. You must sign up for this class, which is free to all who are involved with the VIP Red Flag Patrol. This class is required for anyone who is, or would like to become, a member of the VIP Red Flag Patrol. Call me, Rich Beisigl at (619) 444-5465, or [rbeisigl@csst.net](mailto:rbeisigl@csst.net).

Our friends at REACT have an event in April, time and place to be announced. It is the San Diego Omnium Bike Race. Then on April 25, they will provide communications for the Lakeside Western Days parade. For more info, go to their web page at San Diego Southwestern REACT, or contact them at [teaminfo@southwesternreact.org](mailto:teaminfo@southwesternreact.org)

June 6th & 7th SURF will also sponsor a 100 mile run. If you want to help, contact Paul Schmidt, K6PKS at [pk Schmidt1@cox.net](mailto:pk Schmidt1@cox.net). Remember, this is the group who gave us \$2500.00 to buy new radios and other equipment for CAL FIRE. Again, thank you Paul and members of SURF for the funds we needed to buy the much needed equipment for CAL FIRE.

In June the San Diego County Fair (ok. ok, the Del Mar Fair for us old timers) will once again

take place. This year the Club's Days will be June 12-14. Please help support your Club's efforts to get more people into our great hobby. As you can see, there are many events that you can help out with, so why not volunteer to help with one or more of these events. Who knows, you may find that you like helping and will be volunteering whenever you can.

We also need more members of this club or other Amateurs to join us in providing help with the CAL FIRE VIP Program; our East County Amateur Radio Response Team, and now with the El Cajon City Emergency Operations Center "EOC". All you need to do is choose which one will you want to help with.

Remember, if you go to Geno's aka Good Bones on the Clubs meeting night, you can get a discount for eating there. All you need to do is print out a coupon from the Club's Web Site, order your meal, and enjoy.

Also, take a look at our Club's Calendar for more upcoming events.

Remember our brave men and women who are keeping us safe and fighting to keep us free; shake their hand and thank them for serving our country

Until next time, 73's and 88's  
Rich, N6NKJ

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## CREST Museum

was time to mate it with the DD-1 Digital display.

This unit had a Mode switch, for USB and LSB. That didn't seem to work right, so I adjusted it so it read correctly on LSB. Someday I will figure out what Spectronics was trying to do. In USB, it moved the readout up 3 KC's. Hmmm...

But now, it was working great with the FT-101B and both were retired to the West Wing of the Museum. This would be an ideal Field Day radio, as it is all self contained.

Perhaps you have an old radio that is really broke and all attempts to fix it have been fruitless. Just what I am looking for! Make me deal and you will read about it here in the Counterpoise in upcoming months!

73

Crest Radio Museum  
Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ



Photos on page 14

# Membership Report

Ann KC6TBG



Welcome New Members

Cynthia Cavada	KI6UQN	WAMO # 1783
Lee Graf	KI6VTM	WAMO # 1784

Welcome Back Previous Members

Richard Wilkerson	WD6FDD	WAMO # 381
Gerald Gossman	NW6M	WAMO # 509
Eric Crosser	N6SUB	WAMO # 735
James Gould	K7BAV	WAMO # 738
James Rossman	K9MRJ	WAMO # 1092
Ward J. Davies	KQ6EN	WAMO # 1263

All Members are welcome to participate on all ARCEC weekly Nets. The WAMO Net is an opportunity to meet new members, collect WAMO's and practice your communication skills. Please join us. For more information on the dates and times, see page 4 of this Newsletter.

Congratulations to all who have upgraded your license!

The 2009 ARCEC Roster is for club use only. However, please do not use this club roster to contact club members at the telephone numbers and addresses listed on the roster for the purpose of working a WAMO. The Rules for working WAMO are listed on the website and must be followed in order to receive WAMO Certificates. Also, copies of the WAMO Rules are available at club meetings.

73, Ann, KC6TBG

## Individual Dues Membership:

\$18.00 per year(\$1.50 per month):

January	\$ 18.00	July	\$ 9.00
February	\$ 16.50	August	\$ 7.50
March	\$ 15.00	September	\$ 6.00
April	\$ 13.50	October	\$ 4.50
May	\$ 12.00	November	\$ 3.00
June	\$ 10.50	December	\$ 1.50 *

\*plus \$18.00 for the following year

## Family Dues Membership:

\$30.00 per year (\$2.50 per month):

January	\$ 30.00	July	\$ 15.00
February	\$ 27.50	August	\$ 12.50
March	\$ 25.00	September	\$10.00
April	\$ 22.50	October	\$ 7.50
May	\$ 20.00	November	\$ 5.00
June	\$ 17.50	December	\$ 2.50 *

\*plus \$30.00 for the following year

Ann, KC6TBG  
Membership Chair

**AD Space Available**  
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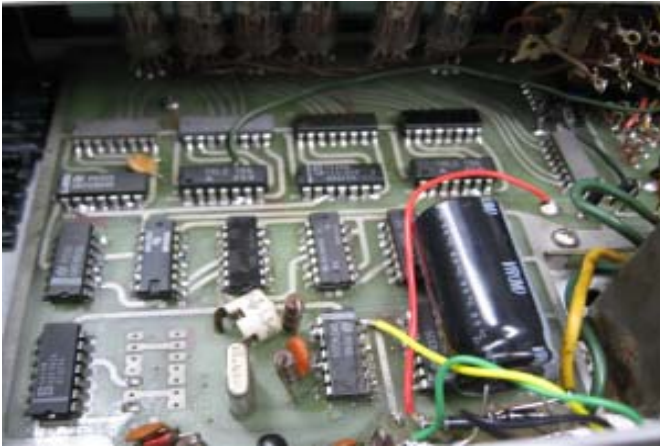
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# Yuma Hamfest Photos

## Crest Photos



FT-101B Board



FT-101B



Cut this out and USE IT

Must present this card!





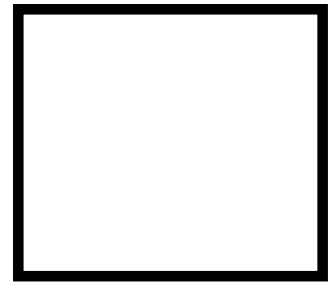
## Yuma Hamfest Photos



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022



Issue Date 3/2009



**For Ham Radio  
Classes  
General License  
Starts  
March 10th**

**Please Contact:  
Mike Maston  
N6OPH  
(619) 296-9067**

**Please Visit Our Website at  
[www.WA6BGS.org](http://www.WA6BGS.org)**



#### **VEC Testing Sites**

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 9:30 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 8:30 am Fire Station #7 1640 Santa Venetia Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 9:00 am LDS Church 1917 East Washington St.

To make advance reservations or to find out more info  
from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)